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October 29, 2025

Dear Hiring Committee:

I am writing in support of Tyler Bowman, who was a student of mine at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Tyler performed very well in three classes I taught: CS120, Software Design I; CS356, Software Exploitation; and CS455, Fundamentals of Information Security. He earned an 'A' in the former two courses. Software Exploitation, in particular, is a very challenging course. To earn an 'A' in that course, Tyler demonstrated a mastery of the GNU Debugger, buffer-overflow exploit development, and low-level network programming. Students complete the course's projects in the C programming language, and the exploits Tyler wrote included return-oriented programming.

My direct experience with Tyler, along with his current GPA and internship experience, demonstrate the fundamentals needed to shine in an entry-level programming position. Tyler has completed significant coursework using C, Java, MIPS assembly, and Python. He has taken classes in databases, the fundamentals of programming languages, operating systems, computational theory, and other topics. I am sure he is eager to continue learning in your organization too.

Aside from being a high-performing student, Tyler is a well-rounded young man. He was always a pleasure to have in class, and I suspect he will be a solid member of whatever team he finds himself on. You are welcome to contact me at [wpetullo@uwlax.edu](mailto:wpetullo@uwlax.edu) if you have any questions about Tyler.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Michael Petullo".

W. Michael Petullo, Assistant Professor  
Department of Computer Science & Computer Engineering